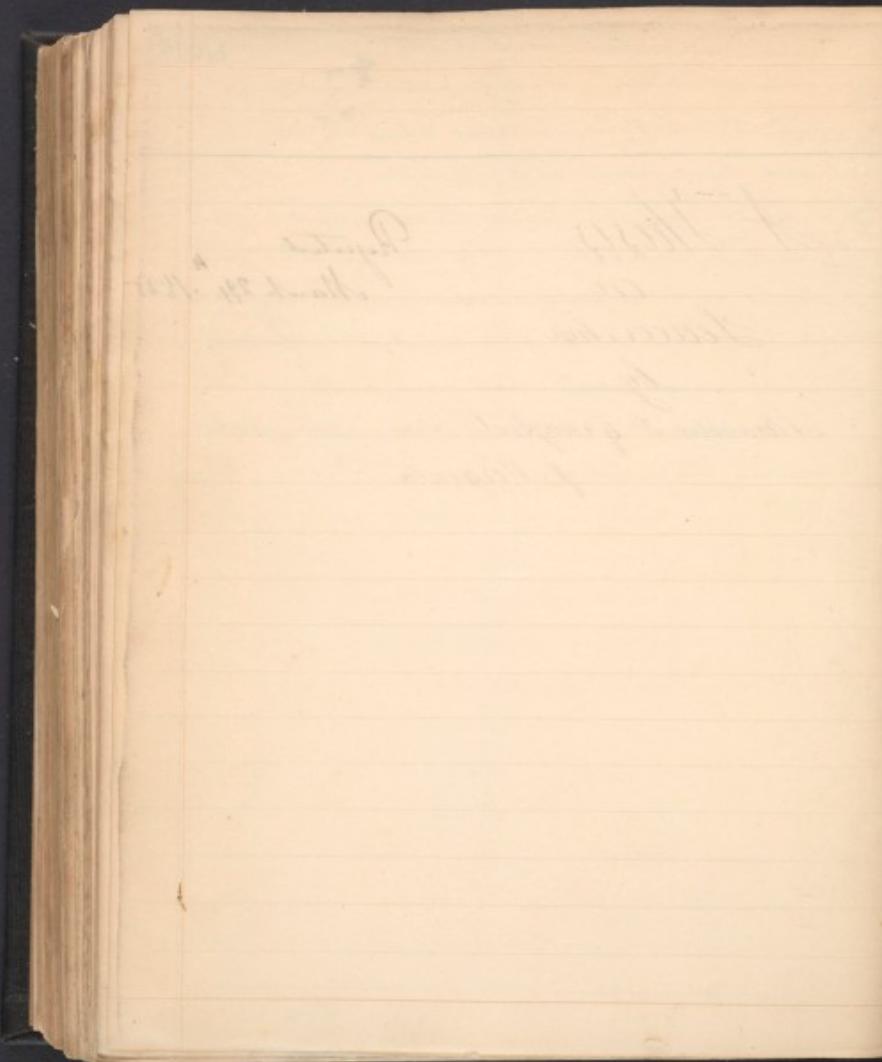


NO 15

A Thesis
on
Seucoriae

Reputed
March 24th 1825

by
Alexander D. Brajerd
of Virginia



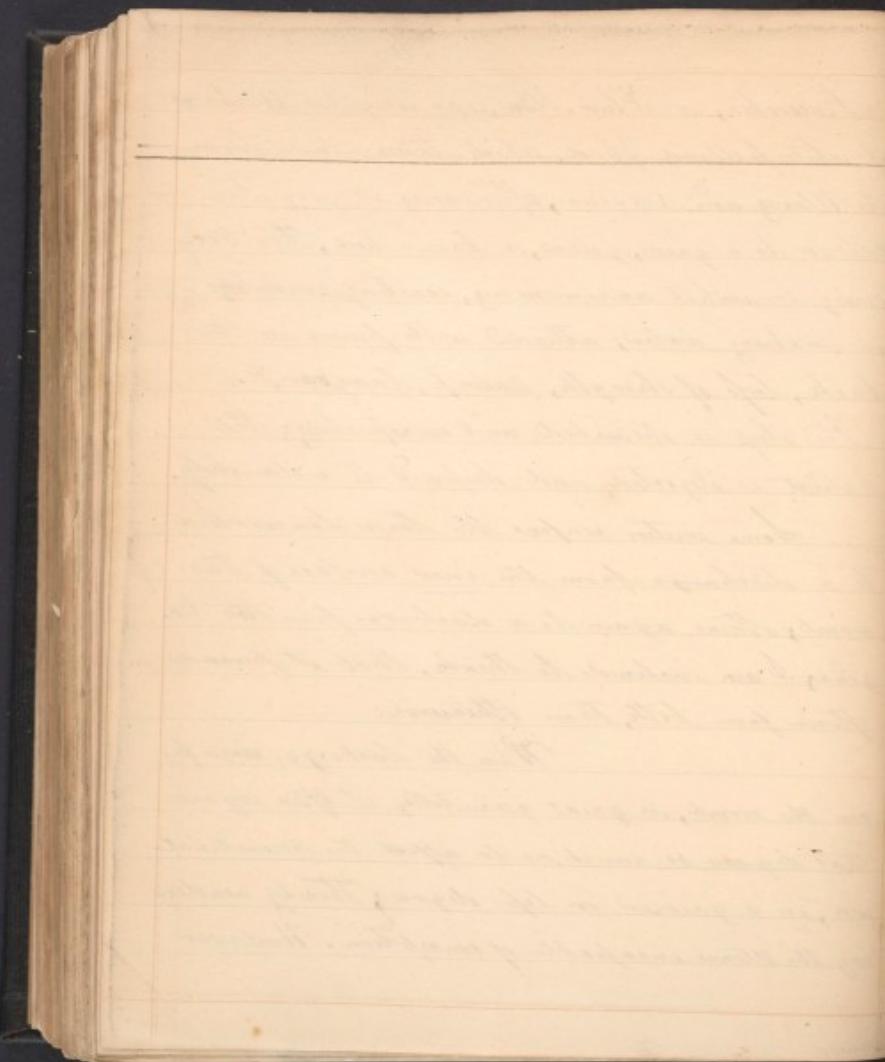
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Leucorrhœa, or Flux Albus, is an irregular discharge
of white pellucid fluid which takes place from
the Uterus and Vagina, afterwards varying its
colour to a green, yellow, or brown hue, then be-
coming somewhat acriditious, exciting smarting
in making water; attended with pains in the
back, loss of strength, paleness, languor, &c.

The sleep is disturbed and unrefreshing; the
patient is dejected and disposed to melancholy.

Some writers confine the term Leucorrhœa
to a discharge from the inner surface of the
womb; others again to a discharge from the Va-
gina; I am inclined to think, that it proceeds
fairly from both, than otherwise.

When the discharge comes from
the womb, in great quantities, it often injures
that organ so much, as to affect the Menstrua-
tion, in a greater or less degree; thereby render-
ing the uterus incapable of conception. However

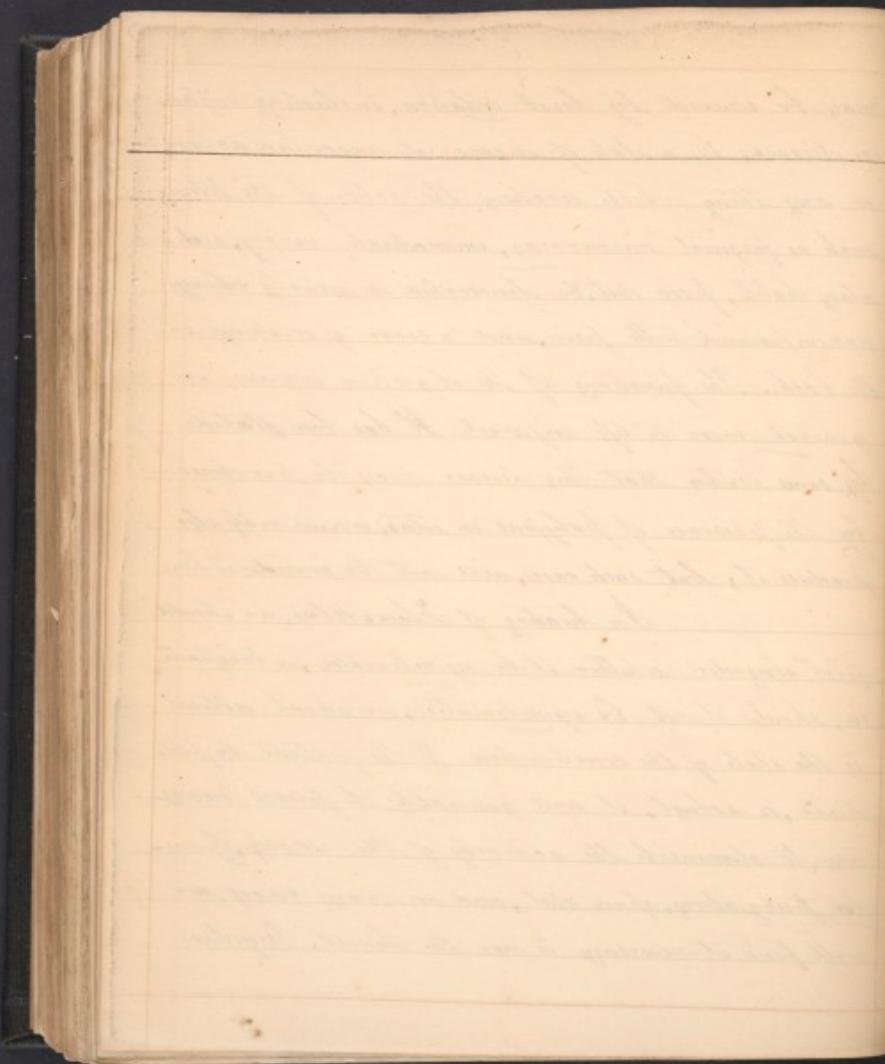


The menses frequently continue pretty regular; and in those cases, the leucorrhoeic discharge diminishes during the flow of the menses, but increase a little before and after menstruation.

It frequently happens when the menses are obstructed, that the Fluor Albus becomes more abundant, and is attended with more pain in the back, about the monthly period. Fluor Albus may occur in two different states of the constitution, these are, a state of plumpness, and a state of debility. The first is marked by a full habit and a good complexion. The second, by a pale countenance, a sallow surface, and a feeble pulse. The discharge in some cases may be mixed with a little blood from the uterine vessels, if there be a tendency to menorrhagia, but not otherwise, until then be organic disease of the parts. We must bear in mind that Sanguinaria

may be caused by local irritation, including organs of disease; by a state of increased muscular action, or any thing which weakens the action of the lungs such as frequent miscarriage, immoderate venery, sedentary habits, poor diet, &c. Tumorrhia is nearly always accompanied with pain, and a sense of weakness in the back. The functions of the digestive organs are general more or less injured. It has been stated by some writers that this disease may be produced by the presence of polypus in uterus; worms may also produce it; but such cases, will not be considered here.

In treating of Fluor Albus, we should first consider whether it be symptomatic, or dispathic; if it should not be symptomatic, we should attend to the state of the constitution. If the patient be plump, or robust, it will generally be found necessary to diminish the activity of the vessels, by mild purgatives, spare diet, and in many cases, we will find it necessary to use the Lancet. Regular

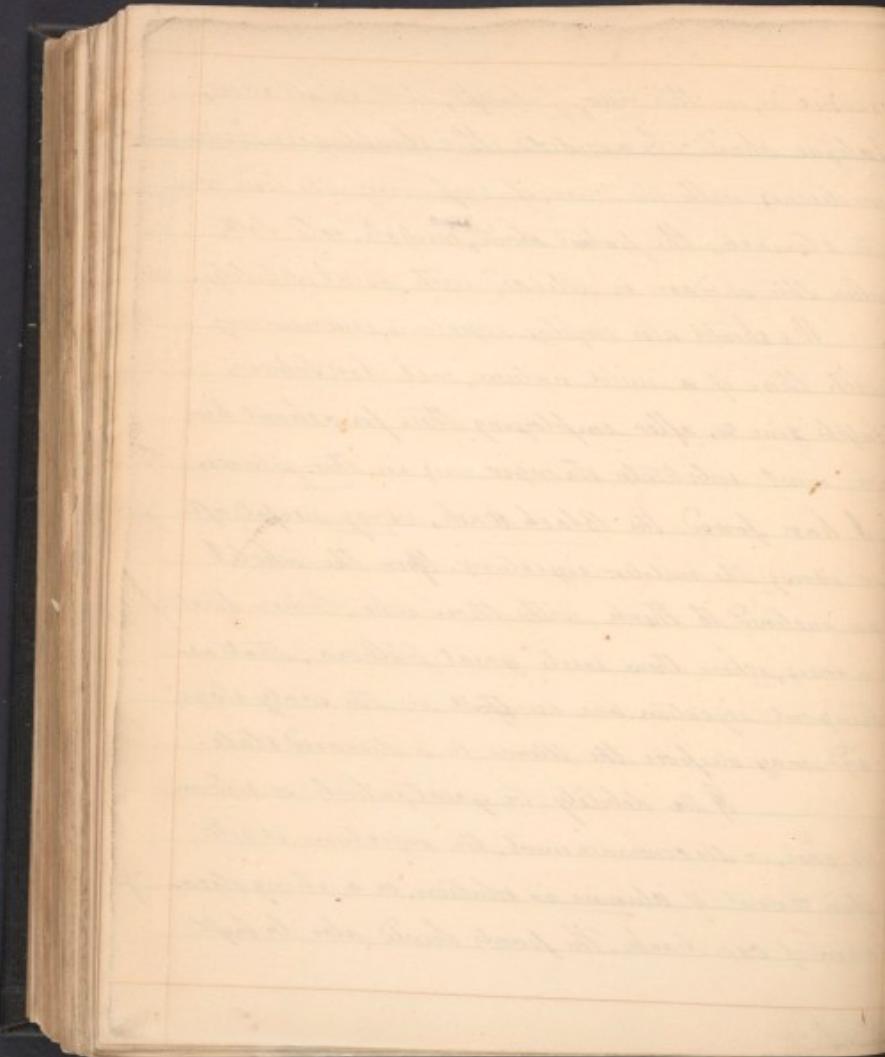


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service is, in this view, of benefit, but in all cases
fatigue should be avoided. We should give tonic
medicine with the view of improving the tone of
the stomach; the patient should ^{have} cordials, cold bath,
when this disease is attended with great debility.

We should also employ injections, commencing
with those of a mild nature, such as Salsaparilla,
Sulphur &c, after employing these for a short time,
we must substitute stronger ones in these places.
I have found the Black Hock, very useful often
in using the milder injections. Upon the whole, I
am inclined to think, with those who believe that
in cases, where there exists great plethora, that as-
tigant injection, are hurtful, in the early stage,
and may despoil the uterus to a disordered state.

If the debility be great, which is seldom
the case, in the commencement, the injections should
then consist of alumine in solution, or a strong deco-
ction of oak bark. The parts should also be kept

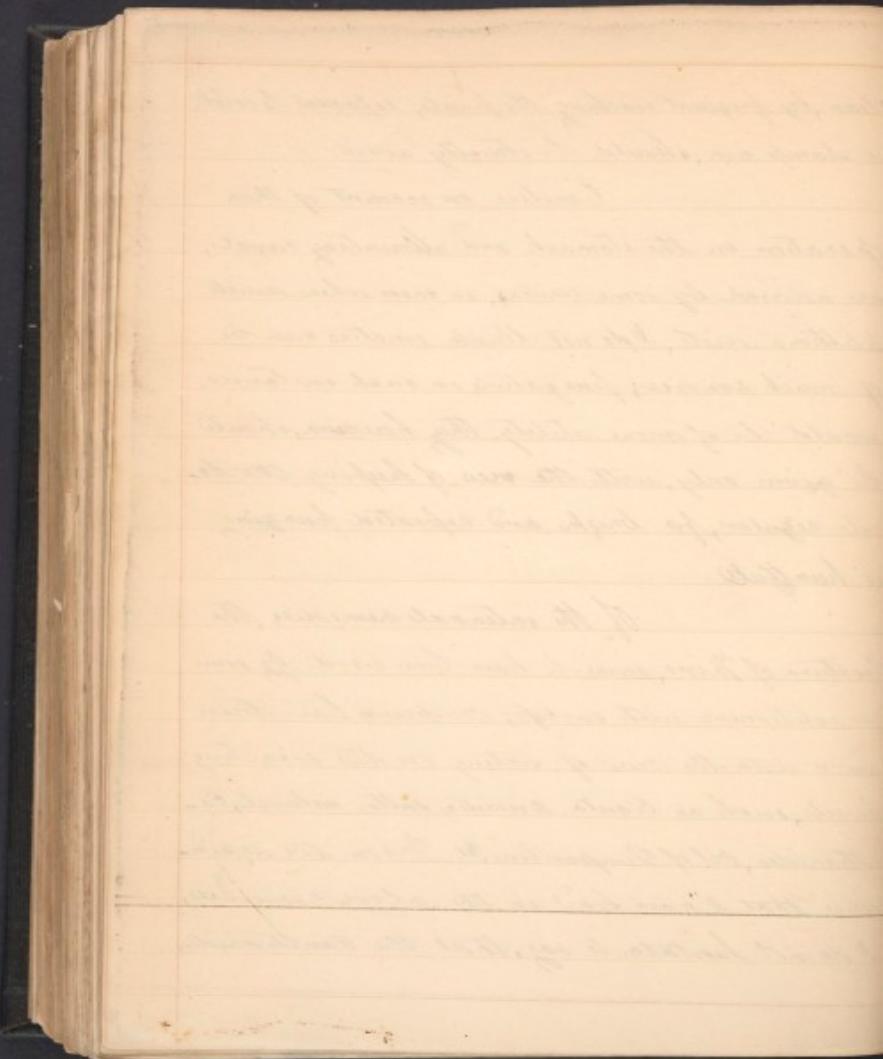


then, by frequent washing the pants; exposure to cold, a damp air, should be strictly avoided.



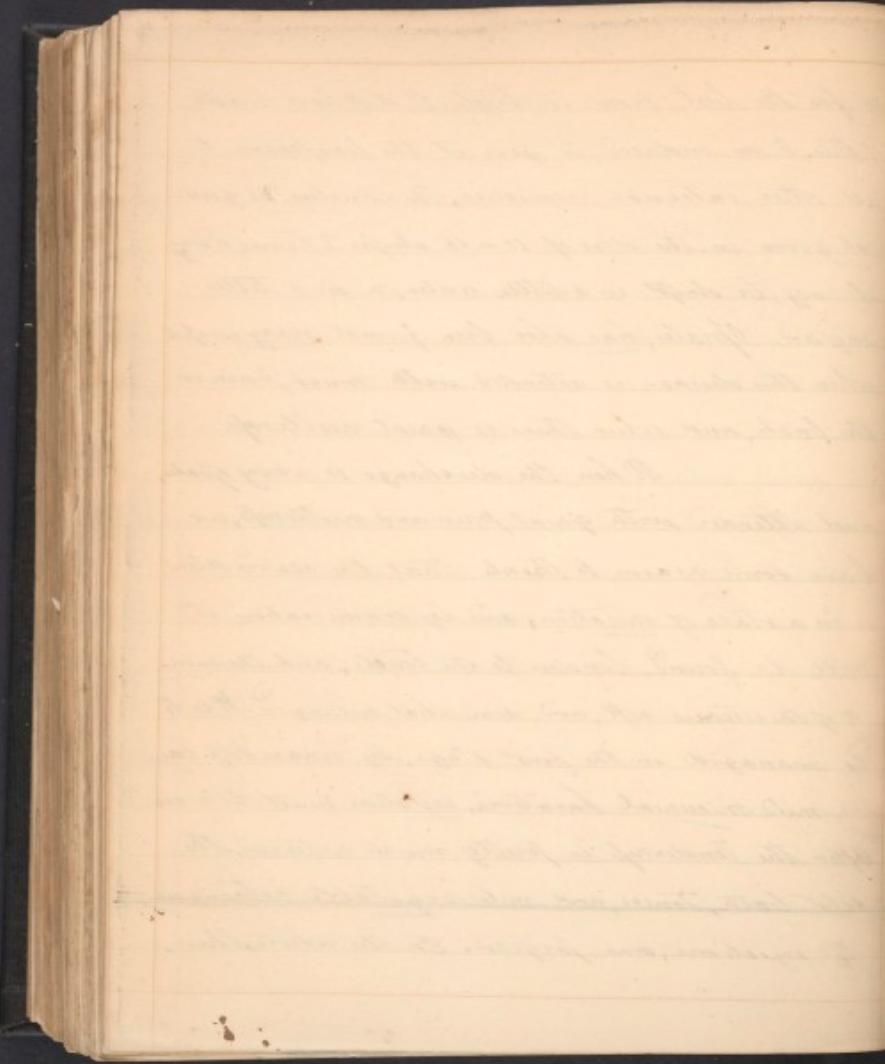
Emetics on account of their operation on the stomach and alimentary canal, are advised by some writers, in cases where much plethora exists, I do not think emetics can be of much service; purgatives in such instances, would be of more utility, they however, should be given only, with the view of helping the bowels regular, for bright and repeated purging, is hurtful.

Of the internal remedies, the extract of Mino, seems to have been used by some practitioners with success; medicines have been given with the view of acting on the secretory vessels, such as Eucata, Diuretic salts, calomel, Cantharides, Oil of Gum-pine, &c. Given the opinion that I have had in the above remedies, I do not hesitate to say, that the Cantharides

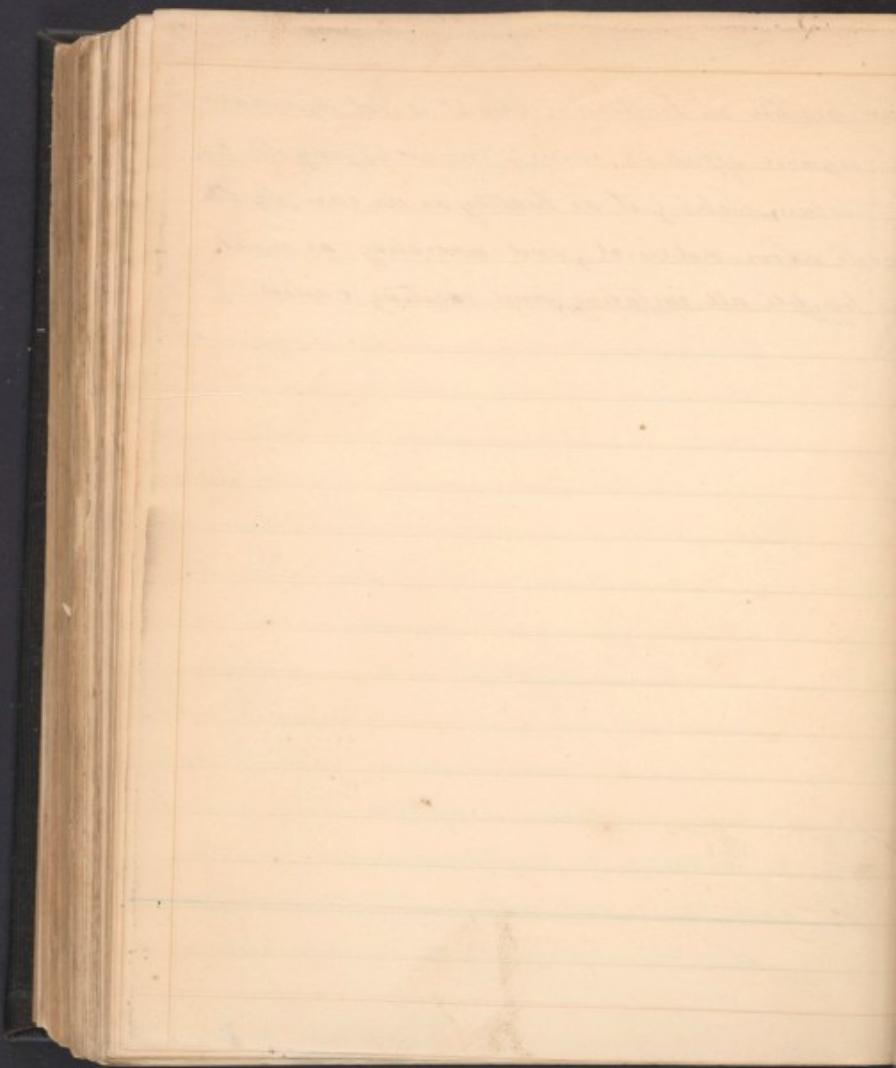


is far the best; from the trials that I have made of this, I am induced to give it the preference to all other internal remedies; the Cinchon is general given in the dose of 10 or 15 drops 3 times a day X
it may be dissolved in a little water, or on a little sugar. Opium, has also been found very useful X
when the disease is attended with much pain in the back, and when there is great restlessness.

When the discharge is very profuse, and attended with great pain and restlessness, we have some reason to suspect that the cervix uteri is in a state of irritation, and by examination it will be found, tender to the touch, and the mouth of the uterus soft, and somewhat enlarged. It is to be managed in the first stage, by warm sponges, mild mucous laxatives, irritation must be avoided X After the tenderness is pretty much relieved, the cold bath, Tonics, and mild vegetable astringents X to injections, are preferred. On the whole, then,



our practice in Leucorrhœa, when it is not dependant
on organic affections, consists in rectifying the co-
nstitution, making it as healthy as we can, by the
mode above advised, and avoiding as much
as possible all irritating, and exciting causes.



Opuntia

Cylindrica

Spines

Gasteria

Truncata

Spines

